

# MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Conservation Working Group  
Meeting Minutes  
January 20, 1998

Conservation Working Group (CWG) members in attendance were: Rachel Saunders, Chair (Center for Marine Conservation); Jack Wickham (Sierra Club-Ventana Chapter); Vicki Nichols (Save Our Shores); Daphne White (Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History); Ellen Faurot-Daniels (Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center); and Joanne Flanders and Lisa de Marignac (Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary).

Guests in attendance were: Holly Price (MBNMS).

## I. CWG Administration

A. The November 18, 1997 meeting minutes were approved with modifications.

### B. General Announcements:

- A presentation on Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate (ATOC) is scheduled for January 20, 1998, 2:00 p.m. at the Moss Landing Harbor District Office.
- The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for February 6, 1998 at the Highlands Inn in Carmel.
- The schedule for the next CWG meeting has been changed to February 10, 1998, 9:30 a.m. - noon, at the Moss Landing Harbor District Office. Please come prepared to give a brief presentation on your agency/organization to the new Sanctuary Superintendent, William Douros.

## II. MBNMS Office Report

Joanne Flanders gave the MBNMS office report. See Attachment A. The following items were not included in the written report:

- A follow-up meeting to August 1997's "The Search for Balance: Sea Lions, Salmon and People" is scheduled for April 4, 1998 in Monterey. According to SOS, the goal of the meeting will be to draft a position paper/consensus document. A facilitator will be brought in and no more than fifty people will be invited.
- The Jade Rule will be published in the Federal Register on January 27, 1998.
- Sanctuary staff have scheduled a KTEH volunteer drive the evening of Thursday, March 12, 1998 from 6:00 to 11:30 p.m., and have invited all MBNMS advisors and volunteers to join. KTEH has stated that they will try, as much as possible, to schedule science/nature shows around the evening.
- Sanctuary staff are still looking into various office space in Santa Cruz and at larger office space in Monterey.

### III. Overview of the Water Quality Protection Program (WQPP)

Holly Price, MBNMS, provided an update on the WQPP's progress over the past year. See Attachment B.

The WQPP has been addressing issues associated with water quality in the Sanctuary, starting with urban runoff, marinas and boating, and agricultural runoff. In the future, the program will look at point source pollution, and wetland and riparian management issues.

Highlights of general outreach and education:

- The WQPP newsletter (Coastal Links) will be releasing two issues per year.
- The first issue of the Citizen Guide series is available. Anyone interested in reviewing future drafts or assisting with distribution, please contact Holly.
- The Watershed Box has been a tremendous success. CWG members are welcome to check it out for special events.
- The watershed video is in final editing stages.
- The Watershed Educators Panel has completed a watershed webpage.

Highlights of urban runoff accomplishments.

- A model urban runoff program is underway.
- The Urban Watch Program has detected detergents in runoff due to the habit of restaurant staff washing down their mats outside.
- Mobile versions of the Aquarium's storm drain is available.

Highlights of marinas/boating accomplishments:

- A new element of the Oil Pad Program has been implemented - SOS's DockWalkers/Paddlers.

Highlights of regional monitoring accomplishments:

- The Regional Water Quality Control Board has hired a full-time regional monitoring coordinator.
- CMC and CWC have initiated a volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Network.

Highlights of the Watershed Coordinating Council:

- The Council has held the first regional grant proposal coordination workshop.

Highlights of agricultural planning:

- Workshops held to evaluate strategies went well in Watsonville and Half Moon Bay.
- The Salinas workshop faced organized opposition to the WQPP agricultural planning. The Monterey County Farm Bureau has requested that the WQPP staff meet with them separately. The Monterey County Farm Bureau is concerned about local pesticide studies and would like to go over the data with the WQPP staff.
- In 1998, the WQPP will continue with implementation of existing plans and would like to finish the agricultural plan.

The CWG praised the numerous accomplishments of Holly and the WQPP.

### IV. Volunteer Programs in Oil Spill Response

Ellen Faurot-Daniels announced that she has been hired as Volunteer Coordinator for OSPR's (Office of Spill Prevention and Response) Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center (formerly Oiled Wildlife Facility). She will be coordinating volunteers for oil spill response, the handling and care of wild sea otters, and the handling and care of display otters. She will also provide volunteer coordination assistance at other facilities doing wildlife rehabilitation and will be involved in a number of research tasks, including looking at contaminants. Ellen explained that she will still be working on sea otter policy issues. During the first year of her position, her funding will be paid by UCSC.

Friends of the Sea Otter (FSO) has laid off its staff member who coordinates the COAST program. After Ellen's departure from FSO, no one at FSO is working on COAST. COAST may be operated through the facility. Steve Shimck has been hired to replace Ellen.

#### VI. Issue/Program Updates

- SAC Membership - the Sanctuary Manager recommendations have been sent to SRD. Old and new members will be attending the February 6, 1998 meeting.
- Please forward nominations for the Conservation award to Rachel.
- EPA and NOAA released a draft document of recommendations to reduce polluted runoff in California. CMC is drafting a comment letter and welcomes other organizations to sign-on to the letter.

#### VII. Next Agenda Items

- Presentation from new Sanctuary Superintendent, Bill Douros
- Presentations from CWG members
- Legislation update

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa de Marignac

ENC  
MBNMS Manager's Report  
WQPP Report

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